

DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD (DAB) I

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, June 1, 2009

6:30 p.m.

Atwater Community Center, 2755 E. 19th, Wichita, Kansas 67214

Members Present

Lori Lawrence
Adam Thomsen
Gerald Domotrovic
Tythan Miles
James Thompson
Janice Rich
Debra Miller-Stevens
Janet Wilson

Guests

Joann Hartig, 1756 S. Main
Bill Wynne, 934 N. Crestway
Beverly Domitrovic, 1219 GW Drive
John Stevens, 3125 E. Boston
Wayne Larson, K-State
Tom Carney, 1240 S. Broadway
James Roseboro, 4518 Greenbriar
Shane M. Timons, 1029 N. Pershing

City of Wichita Staff Present

Chief Tom Carney, Wichita Fire Department
Officer Recio, Beat 23, Wichita Police Department
Officer Mackey, Beat 32, Wichita Police Department
Officer Kimble, Beat 47, Wichita Police Department
LaShonda Porter, Neighborhood Assistant

Order of Business

Call to Order

CM Williams called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. and welcomed the guests. She asked that anyone addressing the Board to provide their name and address for the record.

Approval of Minutes

Thomsen (Wilson) made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion carried **8:0**

Approval of Agenda

Miller-Stevens (Domotrovic) made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion carried **8:0**

Public Agenda

1. Agenda Items

Disposal of Pharmaceutical Waste, Wayne Larson – K State University provided information on how the community can better handle the disposal of excess or expired medications. He advised that toilet-flushing was no longer recommended as national studies have shown that this technique has a negative impact on the aquatic life. He also added that it is also affecting the water quality for Wichitans.

Larson explained that he is working with Kansas State University as an intern, spending time educating the community on alternative methods to dispose of medications. He noted that the excess or expired medications can be taken to Sedgwick County Household Hazardous Waste Facility at 801 Stillwell near Kellogg and Seneca.

Larson advised that if residents could not take their medication to the Sedgwick County facility, they can use the kitty litter or coffee ground method recommended by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to dispose of the medications. This method involves crushing or dissolving solid medications in water, coffee, or another liquid, then making a paste by adding

this liquid to a substance like coffee ground or kitty litter. Then put the paste in a closed container and place the container in the trash. The intent is to make the substance undesirable so that no one could use the medication any longer.

Thompson wanted to know if there were any steps being taken to get local stores like Wal-Mart and Dillon's to accept the excessive or expired medications. **Larson** advised that they have looked at that option; however, there are some safety concerns with that option. So for right now they are trying to get this option up and running and will explore other options at a later time.

Miles wanted to know if any studies had been completed that support the impact on the water quality. **Larson** advised yes and he could review the USGS website for more information.

The **Board** thanked Larson for his presentation.

Action Taken: Receive and file.

2. **Off Agenda Items**
No items submitted.

Staff Report

3. **Fire Report**

Chief Tom Carney provided the Board with an update on the fires that occurred in District 1. He noted that there were 4 accidentals, 2 incendiary, and 1 undetermined fire. He advised that the total fire lost was \$1.6M, (\$1.3 accidental, \$200K incendiary, and \$100K undetermined).

Lawrence wanted to know a cause had been determined on any of the fires. **Carney** advised that they were still under investigation.

CM Williams thank Chief Carney for his time and presentation.

Action Taken: Receive and file.

4. **Police Report**

Officer Recio, Beat 23 advised that he would be providing an update on several beats. He noted Officer Schwietale – Beat 222 is working on issues at the skate park. He advised that they are looking to closing the park at 9 p.m. as they have been experiencing some larcenies and robberies at the park.

Recio advised the City Council approved staff's recommendation to suspend the license for the club at 1030 S. Broadway for serving a drink to a minor. He noted the club tried to appeal the suspension; however, City Council did overturn staff's decision.

Recio also noted that South Central Neighborhood Association had a successful clean up on May 30th. He noted that they picked up 227 tires (37 semi-tires), filled 8.5 skids and 1 packer.

Rich wanted to know about the crime during River Fest, was there an increase. **Recio** advised that they did not notice an increase that incidents were actually down.

Porter advised that Officer Recio was also working in partnership with the START program that is now being implemented in the South Central area in Districts 1 & 3.

Officer Mackey Beat 32 provided an update on a community service project that Patrol East has with youth. She noted that the youth are washing Patrol cars and the first project they were able to complete the inside and outside of 7 patrol cars.

Mackey noted she is also still having an issue with teen club – Club Patrone. She advised that two weeks ago that they began to receive a large increase in complaints, 911 calls and e-mails from residents. The concerns were about clearing the parking lot after events and other issues with the club. **Mackey** noted that Officers were out at the club two weeks ago and two of the workers from the club were arrested for obstruction. **Mackey** noted that she believes alcohol is being served to minors but there is no proof. She advised that they are currently under a zero tolerance rule and this club is being monitored closely.

Thompson wanted to know where the club was located. **Mackey** advised at 2734 Boulevard Plaza (Lincoln & George Washington Boulevard). **Mackey** also noted that she is planning a meeting with the residents from Sunnyside Neighborhood Association who live near the club to discuss their concerns.

CM Williams asked Officer Mackey to also invite residents from the Schweiter East Neighborhood Association.

Officer Kimble Beat 47 advised that the Police Department is also working with the summer camps at both Atwater and McAdams this summer. He also noted that there has been a staffing change on Beat 45 from Officer Gerdes to Officer Oblinger.

Kimble advised that graffiti is up on the 47 beat and that they are seeing tagging from the North Side Gangsters (NSG) – which is a Hispanic gang. He advised that if residents notice the graffiti they should report it immediately so that it could be removed quickly.

Kimble also noted that there has been an increase in illegal dumping and that they are continually working with Environmental Service to get the ordinance changes completed.

Kimble advised that there was a gang incident at 1022 N Volutsia and there is zero tolerance enforcement at this location and that they are generally at this property every night. He also noted that there have been several disturbance calls at 1500 N. Kenmar, which usually large groups of teenagers fighting.

Lawrence asked if “Box Cutters” was a gang as she noticed that name on the old Coleman building on 2nd Street. **Kimble** advised that they were just taggers, it was not gang related.

CM Williams asked Kimble where most of the graffiti being seen was. **Kimble** advised in several places: 27th & Spruce, 25th & Hillside, 27th & Holyoke, and 29th & Vassar.

The **Board** thanked the Officers for their time and presentations.

Action Taken: Receive and file.

New Business

5. Ordinance Change – Chapter 26

Randy Sparkman, Independent Government Consultant presented information on the request for a minor change to Chapter 26 – Manufacturing home code. **Sparkman** noted the he had been consulted to follow through on a project that he started prior to leaving the City of Wichita. He noted that he was approached by Robert Kaplan to look at and determine the merits of changing Chapter 26 (Manufactured Home Code) to allow newer, self-contained RV's (Recreational Vehicles) to occupy Mobile/Manufactured Home spaces, on a temporary basis, in greater numbers than currently allowed (currently maximum 3).

Sparkman noted that initiating purpose was to accommodate contractors tat work for airplane companies a short amount of time them move on to another specialized job in another city. Therefore, code changes would apply to others including, but not limited to, "snow birds," visiting family members, construction workers, and those volunteering services for construction of churches, schools and more.

Sparkman advised that the changes create a new definition of a "self-contained recreational vehicle" to make them separate and alone from the current "recreational vehicle" thus allowing it to have separate treatment and provide more favorable conditions within the parks. The location section of the code as noted, then separates and addresses the temporary nature of the self contained RV, the mandatory requirement for sewer availability or requirement for a dump station for fairly obvious reasons but reasons necessary to mandate in a code for the protection of the city, with other protective restrictions.

Sparkman identified in Section 26.04.020 – Location of manufactured homes, mobile homes and recreational vehicles that the following changes are being recommended: 1) add or self-contained recreational vehicles to item D; and 2) add not to exceed one hundred eighty days to item E.

Domotrovic wanted to know if this would give mobile home parks a larger customer base or funds to fix up the parks. **Sparkman** responded not necessarily, probably would not see a lot of initial changes.

Thomspson wanted to know what role Kaplan played in this request. **Sparkman** advised that he initiated the change but that he also was a mobile park owner.

James Roseboro, 4518 Greenbriar wanted to know who else this amendment would benefit besides Kaplan. He expressed a concern with making such changes that will not have a beneficial base. **Sparkman** advised that this would help all mobile home parks.

Action Taken: Receive and file.

Update

6. Updates, Issues and Reports

Council Member Williams recognized out going Board members for their dedicated and continued service as Board members on the District Advisory Board. **Council Member Williams** presented the following DAB members with a plaque of appreciation and pendant: *James Thompson, Debra Miller-Stevens, Lori Lawrence and Treatha Brown-Foster (absent)*. **Council**

Member Williams thanked them for their years of service and encouraged them to continue to stay engaged although they would no longer serve on the District 1 Advisory Board. She allowed each of them to make brief comments.

Miller-Stevens thanked Council Member Williams for her support and for the opportunity for serving. She encouraged other citizens to seek out one of the rewarding DAB seats. She noted that this process allow individuals to be more informed and to help create a safer neighborhood.

Council Member Williams advised that she totally agrees and that she appreciated the things you do.

Thompson thanked Council Member Williams for the opportunity to serve on the Board. He expressed that he has learned a lot and enjoyed working with each of the Board members.

Council Member Williams noted that she was very privileged that the citizens in District 1 were some involved and committed to their roles.

Lawrence advised that the Uptown picnic was scheduled for June 6th from noon – 3 at Chautauqua Park.

Thomsen noted that the car was near 37th Street and has opened and offers great \$3 washes. He also noted that the greatest thing was that vacuums are free regardless if you get your car washed or not. He also commented that “First Friday” that is hosted in Old Town was an awesome experience and that if you haven’t had a chance to check it out you should.

Miller-Stevens noted that Schweiter East would have their picnic in the park on June 13th at 5 p.m.

Wilson advised that the next A Price Woodard Neighborhood Association meeting would be June 10th at 5:30 p.m. with guest Pamaline King-Burns.

Council Member Williams advised that she was partnering with the Young Professionals of Wichita (YPW) on an “Enhance Community Project” that would lead to beautification in and around Gordon Parks Academy. She noted that the project was scheduled for June 13th and would include a neighborhood clean up, landscaping, painting and debris and bulky waste removal.

James Roseboro, 4518 Greenbriar announced that Northeast Heights would have their picnic on June 6th from 4 – 8 p.m. He also noted that Wichita Independent Neighborhood had their job fair and actually had a small turn out, but some people did get jobs on the spot. He added that the Central Northeast Association Council hopes to have training in the near future for Neighbors on Patrol. Additionally, he noted that the NUSA conference went well.

John Stevens invited everyone to come to out to the Schweiter East picnic.

With no further business, **Thomsen(Wilson)** made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried **8-0**. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
LaShonda Porter
Neighborhood Assistant